

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

4-14-04

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re:

Inventor(s):

Michael R. Rice, Eric A. Englhardt, Vinay Shah, Martin R. Elliott, Robert B. Lowrance and Jeffrey C.

Title:

SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR TRANSFERRING SMALL LOT SIZE SUBSTRATE CARRIERS

BETWEEN PROCESSING TOOLS

Serial No.: Filed:

10/764,620

January 26, 2004

Transmitted herewith is:

PTO Form 1449 and Information Disclosure Statement with five cited references. <u>X</u>

X Return Postcards

Fee Items	Claims Filed	Included With Basic Fee	Extra Claims	Fee Rate	Total		
Total Claims	N/A	- 20 =	-0-	X \$18.00	\$0.00		
Independent Claims	N/A	- 3 =	-0-	X \$84.00	\$0.00		
Basic Filing Fee \$740.00							

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$0.00 to Deposit Account No. 04-1696.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to <u>XX</u> Deposit Account No. <u>04-1696</u>. A duplicate copy of this transmittal is enclosed.

XXPlease address all future correspondence to: PATENT COUNSEL APPLIED MATERIALS, INC. Legal Affairs Department P.O.BOX 450A Santa Clara, CA. 95052

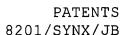
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as express mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

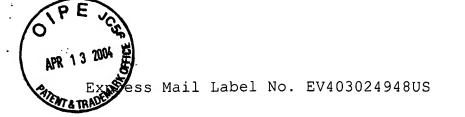
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Respectfully submitted,

Brian M. Dugan Registration No. 41,720

(914) 332-9081





IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Michael R. Rice, Eric A. Englhardt, Vinay

Shah, Martin R. Elliott, Robert B. Lowrance

and Jeffrey C. Hudgens

Serial No. : 10/764,620

Filed: January 26, 2004

For : SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR TRANSFERRING SMALL

LOT SIZE SUBSTRATE CARRIERS BETWEEN

PROCESSING TOOLS

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97, applicants wish to call the attention of the Examiner to the following references:

- U.S. Patent No. 5,261,935, Ishii et al.
- U.S. Patent No. 5,827,118, Johnson et al.
- U.S. Patent No. 5,829,939, Iwai et al.
- U.S. Patent No. 6,054,181, Nanbu et al.

Foreign Art Reference No. EP 0 582 019 A1 (EPO)

These references are also listed on the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement (Form PTO-1449).

Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this patent application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian M. Dugan, Esq. Registration No. 41,720 Dugan & Dugan, PC Attorneys for Applicants

(914)332 - 9081

Dated:

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U.S. Department of Commerce, Patent and Trademark Office				Docket No.: 8201/SYNX/JB			Serial No.: 10/764,620				
LIST OF RELEVANT ART CITED BY APPLICANT								10/704,020			
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(Use several sheets if necessary)					Michael R. Rice, et al.						
NPR 13 2004					Filing Date: January 26, 2004			Group:			
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Initial		Number	Date	Name		Class		Subclass		Appropriate	
	US-1	5,261,935	11/16/93	Ishii et al.							
	US-2	5,827,118	10/27/98	Johnson et al.	vai et al.					<u>-</u>	
	US-3	5,829,939	11/03/98	Iwai et al.							
	US-4	6,054,181	04/25/00	Nanbu et al.						_	
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not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with your communication to applicant.